

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AUSLO PEKING 351

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 1980

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

3. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, UR, JA

SUBJ: SOVIET VIEWS OF JAPAN AND JAPAN-CHINA RELATIONS

REF: TOKYO 1545

1. SUMMARY: THE SOVIETS ARE CLEARLY OPPOSED TO THE PROSPECTIVE JAPAN-CHINA PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY, REGARDING IT AS ENCOURAGEMENT FOR PEKING'S ANTI-SOVIET POTURE. THEY WOULD LIKE TO COUNTER THIS DEVELOPMENT BY KEEPING AFLOAT THEIR OWN PROPOSAL FOR A NON-TERRITORIAL FRIENDSHIP TREATY, BUT HAVE SO FAR HANDLED THIS MATTER GINGERLY, KNOWING THE NEGATIVE JAPANESE ATTITUDE. BOTH SOVIET AND JAPANESE OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, SEE THE PRESS STORIES ABOUT TROYANOVSKIY AS GREATLY EXAGGERATED, WHILE THE CHINESE ARE PREDICTABLY IRATE. END SUMMARY.

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2. IGOR ROGACHEV, DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE MFA'S FIRST FAR

EAST DIVISION, REITERATED MOSCOW'S CONCERN ABOUT THE PROSPECTIVE SINO-JAPANESE PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY IN A CONVERSATION ON FEBRUARY 10. REPLYING TO POLITICAL COUNSELOR'S QUESTION ABOUT JAPANESE PRESS REPORTS OF AMBASSADOR TROYANOVSKIY'S CALL ON SHIINA (REFTEL, ROGACHEV SMILED AND SAID THAT TROYANOVSKIY IS A "VERY EFFECTIVE AMBASSADOR." HIS IMPLICATION WAS THAT REPORTS OF THIS INCIDENT HAVE BEEN HIGHLY EXAGGERATED. CONCERNING THE JAPAN-CHINA TREATY, ROGACHEV SAID THAT MOSCOW DOES NOT OPPOSE THE IMPROVEMENT IN PEKING'S RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. BUT THE QUESTION IN THIS CASE, HE SAID, WAS "HOW DOES IT AFFECT US." IN THIS REGARD, HE SAID THAT THE PRC HAS IDENTIFIED THE SOVIET UNION AS ITS CHIEF ENEMY. ROGACHEV SAID THAT PEKING SEES THE TREATY AS A MEANS OF GAINING SUPPORT FOR ITS ANTI-SOVIET "FRONT." JAPAN'S AGREEMENT TO SUCH A TREATY WOULD THEREBY SEEM TO STRENGTHEN PEKING IN ITS OPPOSITION TO MOSCOW. TROYANOVSKIY WAS ASKED, SAID ROGACHEV, TO POINT THIS OUT TO THE JAPANESE AND TO STRESS THAT THE PROSPECTIVE TREATY WOULD NOT BE BENEFICIAL FOR SOVIET-JAPANESE RELATIONS. IN FACT, SAID ROGACHEV, THE U.S. SHOULD BE EQUALLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE PROSPECTS OF THE CHINESE AND JAPANESE ULTIMATELY GETTING TOGETHER.

3. IN THIS CONNECTION, WANG WEI, HEAD OF HSINHUA NEWS AGENCY IN MOSCOW, AT A DINNER PARTY FEBRUARY 9 EXPRESSED ELOQUENT DISPLEASURE TO POLITICAL COUNSELOR--USING SEVERAL CHOICE CHINESE EXPLETIVES--RE TROYANOVSKIY'S ALLEGED DEMARCHE, CITING THE MOVE AS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF SOVIET PERFDY.

4. ON THE OTHER HAND, JAPANESE EMBASSY COUNSELOR AKIHO ON FEBRUARY 11 SAID THAT THE JAPANESE PRESS HAD GREATLY OVERPLAYED THE STORY. SHIINA'S MANNER, HE SAID, IS VERY OBLIGUE AND IS SUBJECT TO MISINTERPRETATION. IN ANY CASE, TROYANOVSKIY HAD SEEN DEPUTY VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ARITA SUBSEQUENTLY AND HAD NOT EVEN MENTIONED THE SINO-JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP TREATY. HOWEVER, AKIHO NOTED THAT BOTH SOLOVIEV, DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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MFA'S SECOND FAR EAST DIVISION (JAPAN) AND ROGACHEV HAD WITHIN THE PAST WEEK STRESSED TO HIM THE "DANGERS" OF A CLOSE JAPANESE ALLIANCE WITH CHINA, BOTH FOR JAPAN AND FOR SOVIET-JAPANESE RELATIONS. THE SOVIET OPPOSITION TO SUCH A DEVELOPMENT WAS INDEED STRONG, AKIHO CONCLUDED, BUT IT WAS NOT ACCURATE TO BLAME TROYANOVSKIY, IN FACT, SAID AKIHO, THE JAPANESE BELIEVE THAT THE ORGINAL SANKEI SHIMBUN STORY HAD COME

FROM LOWER-LEVEL "HAWKS" IN THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN
TOKYO, ND WAS SPREAD BY SANKEI BECAUSE OF THE
NEWSPAPER'S ANTI-PRC STANCE.

5. THE SOVIETS HAD PROPOSED, AKIHO CONTINUED, THE POSSI-
BILITY OF CONCLUDING A JAPAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP TREATY
DURING MIYAZAWA'S VISIT TO MOSCOW. HOWEVER, THIS
PROPOSAL WAS RAISED ONLY CASUALLY BY GROMYKO (IN ENGLISH
AFTER DINNER) AND WAS LATER REJECTED BY MIYAZAWA IN THE
SAME MANNER (AT THE AIRPORT). AKIHO POINTED OUT THAT
IF MOSCOW WISHED TO TABLE A SPECIFIC PROPOSAL IN THIS
REGARD, IT WOULD NOT BE PROFERRED BY TROYANOVSKIY IN
AN OFF-HAND MANNER TO SHIINA OR ARITA, BUT WOULD BE
CONVEYED BY HIM TO MIKI OR MIYAZAWA ACCOMPANIED BY A
LETTER FROM KOSYGIN OR GROMYKO.

6. COMMENT: SOVIETS, OF COURSE, ARE GREATLY EXERCISED
OVER THE PROSPECTIVE CHINA-JAPAN TREATY. HOWEVER,
THEY THUS FAR SEEM NOT TO HAVE MADE WHAT THE JAPANESE
WOULD CONSIDER A "FORCEFUL PRESENTATION," NEITHER
DURING MIYAZAWA'S VISIT NOR SINCE. AS FOR A "POSITIVE
GESTURE" (PARA 5 REFTEL), SOVIETS ARE NOT IN GOOD
POSITION TO MAKE ONE BECAUSE THEIR REFUSAL TO DISCUSS
TERRITORIAL ISSUES WITH THE JAPANESE HAS SERIOUSLY
FORECLOSED THEIR OPTIONS IN THIS REGARD.
STOESSEL

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